

- Housing authorities and management agents must exhaust protective measures before eviction
- Evictions can only take place after the housing or subsidy providers have taken actions that will reduce/eliminate the threat to the victim (property transferring, barring the abuser, increasing police presence)
- In circumstances where eviction occurs, complaint/suit may be brought under gender/race discrimination because it impacts women



Victims who are denied housing, evicted, or deprived of assistance based on the violence in their homes have a cause of action for sex or racial discrimination under the Federal Fair Housing Act. Do not let any victim, yourself, or a loved one become another statistic on a page.

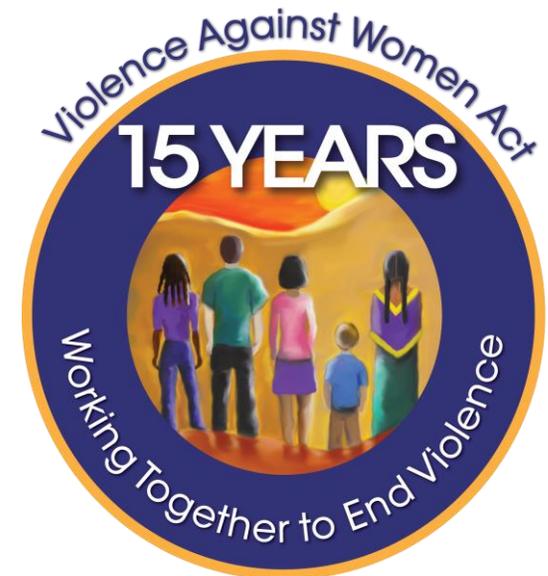
STOP DISCRIMINATORY HOUSING

For more information, please call the number above, or visit www.womenslaw.org and www.domesticviolenceproj.org for local advocates and shelters.

FAIR HOUSING—KNOW YOUR RIGHTS, VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

“Evicting a domestic violence victim from her home robs her of the one anchor she has in a sea of uncertainty.”

--John Trasviña, former Assistant HUD Secretary



The City of Canton Fair Housing Commission, in partnership with the Domestic Violence Project, Inc.

The Problem At Hand



- Women and families across the country are being discriminated against, denied access to, and even evicted from public and subsidized housing because of their status as victims of domestic violence.
- The 2009 Conference of Mayors Annual Report identified domestic violence as the third leading cause of homelessness among families.
- These actions are **ILLEGAL**

Recognizing the Issue

Overwhelming statistics show that women are the predominant victims of domestic violence:

- 1.3 million women are assaulted by a partner every year
- 85%-95% of victims are women
- 1 in 4 women will experience intimate partner violence some time in their life

In addition, domestic violence excessively targets minorities:

- African-American women experience intimate partner violence at a rate 35% higher than that of white females, and 2.5 times the rate of other races
- Native American women are victims at more than double the rate of other groups

These strikes against violence show it to be a discriminatory act—one that Fair Housing Laws can help with.

When Housing Becomes Discriminatory

- When a landlord refuses to accept a tenant because she was abused
- When a landlord evicts a victim and her family under a “zero-tolerance” crime policy
- **WHEN ANY ACTION TAKEN AGAINST A VICTIM CITES THEIR HISTORY AS A VICTIM OF VIOLENCE**



Rules in the Victim's Favor

- VAWA prohibits evictions of victims due to property damage and disturbance